UNITED
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General Assembly

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GENERAL

A/RES/53/240
11 August 1999

Fifty-third session
Agenda item 113

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[*on the report of the Fifth Committee (A/53/485/Add.5)*]

53/240. Question of East Timor

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Mission in East Timor[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Recalling its decision 53/472 of 25 May 1999, wherein it authorized the Secretary-General to enter into commitments up to 35 million United States dollars, from all sources of funds, for the initial requirements of United Nations activities related to East Timor,

1. *Notes* that the budget proposed by the Secretary-General amounts to 52,531,100 United States dollars gross;

2. *Reiterates* that the expenses of the Organization shall be borne by Member States as apportioned by the General Assembly;

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[1] A/C.5/53/63.

[2] A/53/7/Add.14. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 7*.

3. *Notes* that the contributions received so far for the Trust Fund for the Settlement of the Question of East Timor amount to 21,731,700 dollars and that further contributions may be received;

4. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the United Nations Mission in East Timor in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the financial regulations, rules, procedures and practices established by the General Assembly concerning such contributions;

5. *Expresses its appreciation* to all those Member States which have made voluntary contributions to the Mission;

6. *Decides* to appropriate an amount of 52,531,100 dollars for the Mission, and requests the Secretary-General to establish a special account for the Mission;

7. *Decides also* that the amount to be assessed will be determined after the review of the report which the Secretary-General will submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session, taking into account voluntary contributions received;

8. *Decides further* that such assessments as will be necessary shall be apportioned among Member States in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 49/249 A of 20 July 1995, 49/249 B of 14 September 1995, 50/224 of 11 April 1996, 51/218 A to C of 18 December 1996 and 52/230 of 31 March 1998 and its decisions 48/472 A of 23 December 1993 and 50/451 B of 23 December 1995, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the year 1999, as set out in its resolution 52/215 A of 22 December 1997.

103rd plenary meeting
29 June 1999

UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/RES/53/241
19 August 1999

Fifty-third session
Agenda item 170

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[*on the report of the Fifth Committee (A/53/1025)*]

53/241. Financing of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Bearing in mind Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) of 10 June 1999 regarding the establishment of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo,

Acknowledging the complexity of the activities envisaged in the Mission,

Recognizing that the costs of the Mission are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recognizing also that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Mission, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

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[1] A/53/238/Add.1.

[2] A/53/1019.

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such an operation,

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Mission with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. *Expresses concern* about the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursement of troop contributors, which bear additional burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

2. *Urges* all Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo in full and on time;

3. *Emphasizes* that all future and existing peacekeeping missions shall be given equal and non-discriminatory treatment in respect of financial and administrative arrangements;

4. *Also emphasizes* that all peacekeeping missions shall be provided with adequate resources for the effective and efficient discharge of their respective mandates;

5. *Deeply regrets* that the report of the Secretary-General does not contain adequate and precise information to substantiate fully the request submitted;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Mission is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

7. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to enter into commitments in an amount not exceeding 200 million United States dollars, inclusive of the amount of 50 million dollars authorized by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, for the operation of the Mission under the terms of section IV of General Assembly resolution 49/233 A of 23 December 1994, and requests the Secretary-General to establish a special account for the Mission;

8. *Decides*, as an ad hoc arrangement, to apportion the amount of 125 million dollars among Member States in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 49/249 A of 20 July 1995, 49/249 B of 14 September 1995, 50/224 of 11 April 1996, 51/218 A to C of 18 December 1996 and 52/230 of 31 March 1998 and its decisions 48/472 A of 23 December 1993 and 50/451 B of 23 December 1995, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the year 1999, as set out in its resolution 52/215 A of 22 December 1997;

9. *Emphasizes* that no peacekeeping mission shall be financed by borrowing funds from other active peacekeeping missions;

10. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to take additional measures to ensure the safety and security of all personnel under the auspices of the United Nations participating in the Mission;

11. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Mission in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, as a matter of priority, a comprehensive report on the financing of the Mission, including full budget estimates and information on the utilization of resources until the time of the submission of the report, to enable the General Assembly to take action on it at the earliest opportunity;

13. *Notes* the intention of the Secretary-General to submit the full budget to the General Assembly by the end of September or early October 1999;

14. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fourth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo".

105th plenary meeting
28 July 1999

UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/RES/53/242
10 August 1999

Fifty-third session
Agenda item 30

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/53/L.78)*]

53/242. Report of the Secretary-General on environment and human settlements

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 52/12 A of 12 November 1997, entitled "Renewing the United Nations: a programme for reform",

Reaffirming its determination to strengthen the role, capacity, effectiveness and efficiency of the United Nations, including in the field of environment and human settlements, and thus improve its performance in order to realize the full potential of the Organization,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on environment and human settlements[1] and the report of the United Nations Task Force on Environment and Human Settlements annexed thereto, which contain recommendations on reforming and strengthening the activities of the United Nations in the field of environment and human settlements,

Expressing its appreciation to the Chairman and members of the Task Force for their commendable work,

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[1] A/53/463.

Conscious of the continued deterioration of the global environment and the state of human settlements, despite some positive achievements, as well as of the need to strengthen the institutions of the United Nations charged with responsibility for environment and human settlements, to improve their performance and to promote coordination in the implementation of the environmental and human settlements dimension of sustainable development within the United Nations system,

Emphasizing the importance of strengthening the capacity of the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) in their Nairobi location and of ensuring the provision of requisite support and stable, adequate and predictable financial resources necessary to both organizations for the fulfilment of their mandates, as contained in General Assembly resolutions 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972 and 32/162 of 19 December 1977, as well as in the Nairobi Declaration on the Role and Mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme, adopted by the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme in its decision 19/1 of 7 February 1997,[2] and the Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements,[3] adopted by the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) on 14 June 1996, including by seeking additional financial resources through broadening the range of sources of funding for both organizations, in accordance with the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations,

Taking into account the views of Member States on the report of the Secretary-General on environment and human settlements,

Taking into account also the views contained in decision 20/17, adopted on 5 February 1999 by the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme,[4] and Commission on Human Settlements resolution 17/6 of 14 May 1999,[5] concerning the report of the Secretary-General on environment and human settlements,

1. *Welcomes* the efforts undertaken to strengthen the United Nations in the field of environment and human settlements, and in that context takes note of the general thrust of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on environment and human settlements,[1] proposing actions to be taken by the Secretary-General, the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme and the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), and takes note also of the recommendations outlined in section IV of the report;

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[2] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/52/25), annex.

[3] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3-14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[4] See A/54/25, annex I. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 25*.

[5] See A/54/8, annex I. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 8*.

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to strengthen the United Nations Office at Nairobi, in its capacity as the only United Nations headquarters located in a developing country, through the provision of requisite support and stable, adequate and predictable financial resources, including by proposing additional regular budget resources, as envisaged by the General Assembly in its resolution 52/220 of 22 December 1997, for the consideration of the Assembly, with due regard for proper United Nations budgetary procedures;

3. *Encourages* the Director-General of the United Nations Office at Nairobi to take steps to increase the level of utilization of the Office, and in this regard encourages other agencies, funds and programmes to consider increasing their utilization of its facilities for their activities;

4. *Calls upon* the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to increase cooperation in and strengthen coordination of their activities, within the framework of their respective mandates and separate programmatic and organizational identities, as well as their separate Executive Directors;

5. *Supports* the proposal of the Secretary-General regarding the establishment of an environmental management group for the purpose of enhancing inter-agency coordination in the field of environment and human settlements, and requests the Secretary-General to develop, in consultation with the Member States and members of the Administrative Committee on Coordination, the mandate, terms of reference, appropriate criteria for membership and flexible, cost-effective working methods of the proposed environmental management group and to submit them to the General Assembly for consideration at its fifty-fourth session;

6. *Welcomes* the proposal to institute an annual, ministerial-level, global environmental forum, with the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme constituting the forum in the years that it meets in regular session and, in alternate years, with the forum taking the form of a special session of the Governing Council, in which participants can gather to review important and emerging policy issues in the field of the environment, with due consideration for the need to ensure the effective and efficient functioning of the governance mechanisms of the United Nations Environment Programme, as well as possible financial implications, and the need to maintain the role of the Commission on Sustainable Development as the main forum for high-level policy debate on sustainable development;

7. *Supports* the proposals for the facilitation of and support for enhancing linkages and coordination within and among environmental and environment-related conventions, including by the United Nations Environment Programme, with full respect for the status of the respective convention secretariats and the autonomous decision-making prerogatives of the conferences of the parties to the conventions concerned, and emphasizes in this regard the need to provide the United Nations Environment Programme with adequate resources to perform this task;

8. *Welcomes* the proposals for the involvement, participation and constructive engagement of major groups active in the field of environment and human settlements, with due consideration for the relevant rules, regulations and procedures of the United Nations;

9. *Reiterates* the importance of strengthening the capacity and capability of the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), within the framework of their existing mandates, in the areas of information, the monitoring and assessment of global and regional environmental and human settlements trends and early warning information on environmental threats, so as to catalyse and promote international cooperation and action, and in this context emphasizes the importance of strengthening the system-wide Earthwatch as an effective, accessible and strictly non-political science-based system;

10. *Reaffirms* that, in accordance with its mandate, the United Nations Environment Programme should not become involved in conflict identification, prevention or resolution;

11. *Stresses* the need to ensure that capacity-building and technical assistance, in particular with respect to institutional strengthening in developing countries, as well as research and scientific studies in the field of environment and human settlements, must remain important components of the work programmes of both the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), within their existing mandates, and also stresses, in this regard, the need for adequate financial resources as well as the need to avoid duplication of efforts;

12. *Also stresses* the need to enhance further the role of the United Nations Environment Programme as an implementing agency of the Global Environment Facility, consistent with its role as defined in the Instrument for the Establishment of the Restructured Global Environment Facility;[6]

13. *Reaffirms* the role of the Commission on Human Settlements in the implementation of the Habitat Agenda,[7] emphasizes the need for it to take steps to prepare for the review of its implementation in 2001, and welcomes the proposals that the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) should strengthen its core activities and develop into a centre for excellence with regard to human settlements;

14. *Welcomes* the proposal to continue ongoing work in the development of indicators in the field of environment and human settlements, and in this regard stresses the importance of the need to avoid duplication of efforts;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

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[6] UNEP/GCSS.IV/2.

[7] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3-14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.